

Mathematical Reflections

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This investigation explored similar polygons and scale factors. These questions will help you summarize what you learned.

Think about your answers to these questions. Discuss your ideas with other students and your teacher. Then write a summary of your findings in your notebook.

1. How can you tell if two polygons are similar?
2. If two polygons are similar, how can you find the scale factor from one polygon to the other? Show specific examples. Describe how you find the scale factor from the smaller figure to the enlarged figure. Then, describe how you find the scale factor from the larger figure to the smaller figure.
3. For parts (a)–(c), what does the scale factor between two similar figures tell you about the given measurements?
 - a. side lengths
 - b. perimeters
 - c. areas